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FARM SCIENCE SNAPSHOTS, Saturday, June 1, 1929.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Each week this Station presents the Farm Science Snapshots prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. These Snapshots show some of the things State and Federal experts have found out. They are getting interesting results. And some of their results may help some of us get better results.

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Some of the Federal men have been looking into this matter of storing berries; so folks can have fresh strawberries, and fresh raspberries, and other soft fruits, all the year around.

Preserving berries by freezing them in barrels, and kegs, and cans is already quite a business on the Pacific Coast region. About 100,000 barrels of berries are put up by this "frozen-pack method," every year.

Now, the Government experts say it is entirely practical to pack the small fruits in small packages as well as big ones. Groceries and markets with improved refrigeration facilities may handle such fruit packs in convenient sizes for direct sale to the housewives of the country.

That fresh fruit flavor can be successfully frozen in the pack and preserved for the consumer long after the picking.

Among the fruits which tests show to be well adapted to freezing for this sale in the winter is the Young dewberry. The Young dewberry is favored by berry growers not only because of its fine dessert quality, which is in big demand, but because it is highly resistant to the anthracnose and leaf-spot diseases, and is a very vigorous and productive plant. It seems to be hardy from Norfolk, Virginia, south and west, through parts of eastern North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas and beyond. In California, Oregon, and Washington, the Young dewberry seems to be adapted to a somewhat wider range of conditions than the loganberry.

Investigators of the Virginia Experiment Station have turned up some interesting information about that great apple pest known as the codling moth. Worms of the codling moth look alike wherever they are found. They look alike, but they don't act alike. A heavier poison spraying schedule is used in Colorado than in Washington and the spraying required to keep down the codling moth in Washington is greater than that in Virginia.--- Why is that? -- Most experts have been blaming it on the difference in climate. The Virginia men, however, had Colorado and Washington codling moths shipped to Virginia. Then they set the codling

moth worms from the three sections to work on apples. They found the Colorado worms working in Virginia were much more able to penetrate sprayed or unsprayed apples than the native Virginia worms. The Washington worms had an ability much like that of crosses between the Colorado and Virginia codling moths. These differences held true even unto the second and third generations. The Virginia experts conclude there are distinct strains of codling moths in the different sections. But that has raised the question whether the codling moths are becoming more adapted to living in a poisonous environment. In Colorado, spraying has been carried on much longer than in the other two districts.

In an orchard, the fruit crop is the thing. Therefore, Department horticulturists point out, you should not allow other orchard operations such as irrigating, or cultivating and thinning, to interfere with the spraying schedule. Handling alfalfa in an orchard often interferes with the spraying. Don't do it. The best orchard practice does not favor cutting alfalfa for feed. That takes valuable tree food out of the orchard. But if you must cut it, cut it and get it out of the orchard before you put on the spray, regardless of its condition for hay. Then there will be no danger of poisoning your stock. Remember, however, alfalfa as an orchard crop is secondary in importance to the fruit. And while we're on the subject, Farmers Bulletin 1326-F on Control of the Coddling Moth in the Pacific Northwest tells when and how to spray in that region to control that insect.

On many ranges in the Southwest, where brush is the main forage, proper stocking with Angora goats and good goat-range management have produced better financial returns in recent years than it was possible to get on those ranges by grazing other classes of livestock. A committee of experts from the U. S. Department of Commerce and Department of Agriculture has reported that there will probably be further expansion of goat raising for mohair on such browse ranges. From now on, however, there will be more need for better quality goats and fleeces and better marketing of the mohair.

Another advance step has been made in the control of sheep parasites by the development of the new drug, tetra-chlor-eth-y-lene, Federal veterinarians say. Single doses of this chemical have been found practically 100 per cent efficient in ridding sheep of stomach worms, hookworms, and some of the other roundworms which live as internal parasites in sheep.

The Department's swine experts report experiments which show that pigs fed tankage with peanuts and minerals make twice as fast gains as pigs fed on peanuts and minerals without tankage. With unshelled peanuts at 3 cents a pound and tankage at 3½ cents a pound, the addition of tankage to the ration produced 100 pounds of gain at a saving of $7.94.

The specialists at the Georgia Experiment Station found by a series of baking tests that fish meal fed to hogs did not affect the flavor or odor of pork. There was no fishy taste detectable in the meat.

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The Kansas Experiment Station men in their cattle feeding investigation have found that there is a big advantage in feeding yearlings in a dry lot after August the first. Yearlings full fed in a dry lot after August the first made more profit than two-year-olds fed in a dry lot, but yearlings fed on bluestem grass made less profit than two-year olds fed on bluestem pasture.

Federal meat inspection is made in about 850 establishments in more than 250 cities and towns and includes at least two-thirds of all the cattle, calves, sheep, swine, and goats slaughtered for food in the United States. About six million animals are killed and inspected each month, and the records of those inspections give an excellent basis for judging the trend of meat production and consumption in this country. For that reason, the monthly report showing the number of different classes of livestock slaughtered is of great interest to livestock and meat interests. So much so, that the monthly figures will now be made available two weeks earlier than formerly.

Those three-leaved outside wrappers which embrace a cotton boll cause a lot of loss. Those leaves get dry and brittle by the time the cotton is ready for picking. It is almost impossible to pick cotton without getting some of that trash in it that cuts down the price. Some botanists have suggested breeding plants with smaller wrappers so as to lower the losses. Experiments by Department scientists show, however, that what might be gained in cleaner picking would be more than offset by smaller yield of seed and lint. These leaves help nourish the growth of the lint. However, there are some South American cottons which have more open-spreading wrappers. There is still the possibility of using such varieties in which the leaves spread away from the bolls to get a cleaner-picking cotton, and yet retain the nourishment for the seed and lint.

Investigations of the Western Irrigation Office of the Department have demonstrated beyond a doubt that the cotton root rot fungus which attacks cotton, alfalfa, cowpeas, sweet potatoes, beets and fruit trees may be carried in an infectious condition in the soil on completely dead plants over a period of several years. A system of clean fallow, even when rigidly kept up for three years, will not insure a satisfactory reduction of cotton root rot where the soil is deeply infected.

New York Experiment Station experts say cut hay when the rain or dew on it has dried and do not put damp hay into your barn or stack. In that way you may prevent fires from spontaneous combustion, in your hay mow.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has announced examinations for a Soil Erosion scientist at $3,800 to $4,400 a year, or an associate soil erosion scientist at $3,200 to $3.700 a year, and an assistant soil erosion scientist at $2,600 to $3,100 a year. Applications for those positions must be in by June 19th.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: That bulletin on Control of the Coddling Moth in the Pacific Northwest is Farmers' Bulletin No. 1326-F. The Circular on the Mohair and Goat Industry is Miscellaneous Circular No. 50-M. You can get either of these publications by writing to this Station or by writing direct to the United States Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D.C.

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FARM SCIENCE SNAPSHOTS Saturday, June 8, 1929.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: Each week this Station______ presents the Farm Science Snapshots prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. These Snapshots show some of the activities and findings of State and Federal government scientists. Some of their results may help you on your farm.

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---- Here comes an important announcement! --- Be sure and get this--- It may mean money in your pocket! -------

The United States Department of Agriculture announces that this summer it will issue a series of special outlook reports. These new reports on special farm crops are designed to enable farmers to adjust their production plans in view of the verv latest development of the season.

The outlook report for hogs will be issued July 15. The outlook for poultry will be issued July 23. The outlook for sheep and wool will be issued August 5. The outlook for strawberries will be August 15 or earlier, prior to setting of new beds. The outlook for beef cattle will be issued August 26. The outlook for early potatoes for Florida and lower Texas valley will be issued September 1, or earlier. The outlook report for winter grains, including wheat, rye and southern oats and barley will be issued September 5. Reports on truck crops may be announced later.

You are all no doubt familiar with the annual outlook report which covers all the crops and is issued early in the year. That annual report gives the general picture of crop market conditions as it looks at the first of the year. These new reports will give a closer-up of conditions on the special crops mentioned.

Too much land in crops is one of the fundamental causes of the present agricultural depression, according to Dr. O. E. Baker, economist of the Department. And, he thinks, the tendency during the next ten years will be, as it has been in the past, to bring more land into use for crops than is needed. Unless agricultural settlement is guided prudently, there will be a recurrence of agricultural depression.

The Wisconsin Experiment Station has been studying cooperative butter marketing. The Wisconsin experts compared the costs of marketing by different sized co-ops. They compared the prices and costs of a number of the different types of associations and found that the federated creameries got from about two-thirds of

a cent to one and a third cents a pound more for butter and four-fifths to over one and two-thirds cents a pound more for butterfat.

The Texas Experiment Station has made a study of the mechanical harvesting of cotton in northwest Texas which shows that mechanically harvested cotton, whether picked or stripped, is not necessarily of a lower grade than hand-picked cotton. The Texas investigators claim that enough evidence was obtained to prove that cotton harvested either way under proper conditions will be of good grade. It was demonstrated that stripped cotton could not be distinguished from hand picked cotton when properly handled.

Arrangements have been made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for its London and Berlin offices to transmit more frequent and inclusive market and crop reports on fruits in Europe for use in the Department's market news service in this country. European countries are now trying to increase their fruit production, but such efforts are in the preliminary stage and the market for American fruits in Europe is keeping up.

The Montana Experiment Station has found that growing sugar beets continuously and in short rotations with wheat or oats results in low average yields. Beets produce much more after potatoes than after oats, but give better yields after oats than they do when grown continuously on the same land. The Montana men found their sugarbeets made the heaviest returns when grown in rotations including three years of alfalfa or an application of manure to one crop. Liberal applications of manure brought material increases in yields.

Possibly the most common and wide-spread disease of tobacco is the mosaic disease. As many tobacco growers know it causes a big loss.----- But how big? At the Maryland Experiment Station, tests for three years show that inoculation of tobacco with the mosaic disease at transplanting time cuts down the yield 30 to 35 per cent and the gross value of the crop to the acre more than 55 per cent. When the infection took place a month after transplanting the damage was almost as bad as that at transplanting time. Inoculation at topping time did not reduce the yield much, but it did lower the quality of the crop.

From results of liming experimenta, the North Carolina Experiment Station experts conclude that without clover in the rotation, the use of lime on corn, wheat, or cotton growing on clay, loam soil will seldom pay.

In Leaflet Number 41, on "Good Naval-Store Practice," which has just been issued by the Department, logging engineers of the Forest Service point out that overcupping pines for turpentine is largely practiced today to the disadvantage

of those who do it. Careful men in the western part of the pine belt put two faces on trees 16 inches or more in diameter. On smaller trees, two faces worked for three years produced only about 50 per cent more than one face and reduced the yield from the crop by 10 to 15 barrels. More of the trees dry or die under two faces than one.

Other experts of the Forest Service have studied the needs for good Angora goat range. For yearlong grazing, each goat needs an average of about four acres of grassbrush type of range and three to six acres of the true-brush type range. Good range management means conservative stocking, dividing the range so as to afford the best feed during each season, and getting as nearly even use of all parts of the range as possible.

No pastures should be overstocked with any kind of livestock. If you wish to save your young livestock, don't overstock. Put the young animals by themselves or with their mothers, away from older animals. Give them the safest, dry, hillside pastures, not low, wet ones. If they are unthrifty, it is probably due to poor breeding, poor feeding, or parasites. Keep chicks away from turkeys. And use the swine-sanitation system. Those are a few of the hints in Leaflet No. 1, on "Ways to Save Young Livestock."

And while you are saving, you want to save yourself from trichinosis; that dread disease caused by a small roundworm found in hogs and rats. Fortunately, it is easy to protect yourself. The disease is caused by eating raw pork. The preventive is to cook pork well before eating it. Leaflet No. 34 on "Trichinosis" will explain the situation to you.

It is interesting to note in passing, that a search for remedies for diseases of dogs in this country led a Department veterinarian to the discovery of the carbon tetrachloride treatment for hookworm. Under that treatment for hookworm, natives of the Fiji Islands have made such improvement that its use is now termed one of the greatest contributions ever made in human disease control in the tropics.

Ancient writers mention gourds eighteen inches in diameter, three or four feet long, and weighing eighty pounds. Ours are not that big, but they are very useful for bird houses and other purposes. There is a new Leaflet No. 36 on "Gourds for Bird Houses and Other Purposes." It tells how to raise them and how to use them.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission asks us to remind those interested that applications for those agricultural and home economics positions with the Federal Board of Vocational Education must be in not later than June 19. Among the jobs are one $4,600 job as research specialist in agricultural education, and three $3,800 jobs for specialists in agricultural education. The Commission

has also announced examinations for Associate Biologist in the Bureau of Biological Survey at $3,200 to $3,700 a year, and Assistant Biologist at $2,600 to $3,100 a year. Applications for those two jobs must be in not later than June 26th.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The publications mentioned in these Snapshots are free. You can get them by writing to this Station or by writing direct to the United States Department of Agriculture. Give your name and address and the name and number of the publication you desire. "Gourds for Bird Houses" is Leaflet No. 36-L. "Trichinosis, A Disease Caused by Eating Raw Pork," is Leaflet No. 34-L. "Ways to Save Young Livestock," is Leaflet No. 1,,and "Good Naval Stores Practice" is Leaflet No. 41-L.

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FARM SCIENCE SNAPSHOTS Sat. June 15, 1929.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: Each week this Station presents the Farm Science Snapshots prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. These Snapshots show some of the findings of specialists at Federal and State Agricultural Experiment Stations and in the field. Some of those findings may prove valuable to you on your farm.

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In some ways, combine harvester-threshers are better suited to use in the East and South, than in the West. At least, that's what agronomists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture suggest. The combine leaves the straw in the field and so does not cause as heavy a drain on the fertility of the soil as follows the removal of the entire crop. In the dry-land farming sections of the West, however, the straw doesn't rot fast and is sometimes considered objectionable. That's not the case in the East.

By using the combine in the South, farmers can do double cropping and return the remains of two crops to the soil in one season. After the grain crop is harvested, a legume crop, such as soy beans, can be seeded and then in turn harvested with the combine in time for seeding winter grain.

In the East and South, however, the practical use of the combine for the most the grain depends on an increase in the number of custom combines or an increase in the number of combines owned cooperatively.

Experiments by the Highway Departments in Oregon and California have resulted in the development of new ways to make fine crushed rock and gravel roads last longer. The treatment used consists in mixing light asphaltic oils with the surface course so as to reduce wear, eliminate dust, and make a smoother, better road. Similar methods have been developed by the Highway Department of South Carolina for treatment of sand-clay and topsoil roads.

During the last twelve to fifteen years, millions of apple trees have been cut down or dug up in the United States, but we are now producing practically as many apples from far fewer trees. We are producing more apples to the tree. All told, our apple growers produce more than 800 standard varieties. But the tendency is toward the concentration of commercial apple orchards in the more favorable sections and the growing of fewer varieties.

The Illinois Experiment Station experts say that the old excuse of flies and hot weather can no longer be blamed for the big midsummer drop in milk yield of Illinois dairy cows. They point out that the trouble is not with the weather but with the lack of enough protein feed. They say pasture is not enough. If cows are not supplied with grain in addition to pasture, they may lose weight fast. Liberal feeding during the pasture season helps prevent that midsummer slump, in milk supply.

A survey made by the Department in Washington, D.C., shows that the bigger the family, the less milk each member drinks. Milk consumption in the small family is much bigger per person than it is in the big family.

Poultrymen in 30 States ship poultry to New York City, another Department survey shows. Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, and Oklahoma provide a large percentage of the total freight receipts of poultry in New York. The terminal costs are higher, however the experts say, than they could be made if there was one terminal market in New York instead of many. They also suggest a sounder basis for price quotations than that now used. With a union terminal and an exchange close by where live poultry could be freely bought and sold on the basis of quality, they hold, wholesale prices would more truly reflect real supply and demand conditions, and result in a fairer return to shippers and consumers.

The Washington State Experiment Station reports that an increasing number of poultrymen are now buying eight weeks and five month old pullets, so as to avoid the work and losses involved in brooding, and the problem of disposing of the cockerels.

Counting the pigs on the baby's toes used to be pretty accurate, in Indiana and in other parts of the world. The average number of pigs per sow has been about 5½, the Indiana reports show. Now, however, due to the swine sanitation system used, many Indiana farmers report that they are saving more than eight pigs per sow. That swine sanitation

system was worked out by the Department's Bureau of Animal Industry some years back.

Department of Agriculture scientists have also foung that lean pork is rich in the vitamin which prevents that serious nerve disease as polyneuritis. Fresh and smoked ham were found to be equally good sources of that vitamin; much better sources than lean beef.

Chemical tests of honey will be made by Federal inspectors at San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and other centers where there is demand enough for official United States honey grading certificates. The use of these new United States grade certificates, which will carry a statement as to the purity of the honey based on the chemical tests, is expected to be of great importance in facilitating exports of American honey; as word has been received from abroad that all honey consigned to Germany will be carefully examined before it is allowed to enter.

Honey reminds me of locusts. Locusts are what we call grasshoppers, when we are not calling them some name not fit to print. The most practical way to control grasshoppers is by poison baits. How to put out those grasshopper baits is explained by the experts in Farmers Bulletin No. 747 on "Grasshopper Control in Relation to Cereal and Forage Crops."

Nearly all birds, from the biggest hawk to the smallest hummingbird, eat grasshoppers. And not only are birds important in keeping down grasshoppers, but a thousand and one other insects also. Birds are very valuable around the farm. So much so, that the Department of Agriculture has prepared bulletins on how to attract birds. Farmers' Bulletin No. 844 tells how to attract them in the Middle Atlantic States. Farmers' Bulletin No. 621 tells how to attract them in the Northeastern States. Farmers' Bulletin No. 912. gives the best methods for the Central States birds; and Farmers' Bulletin No. 760 for those in the Northwest.

There is another bulletin which may come in handy this time of the year. That's Farmers' Bulletin No. 1166 on "Poison Ivy and Poison Sumac, and their Eradication. Ivy and Sumac poisoning is largely preventable and that bulletin will tell you how to prevent such poisoning and how to remedy it.

The director of the Texas Agricultural Station reports that terracing of fields has increased the yield of cotton in sections of Texas with light rainfall all the way from 40 to 90 per cent over production from unterraced fields. Erosion prevention on 3,000,000 acres of Texas land has now come to be a means of crop insurance against seasonal losses from dry weather.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The bulletins mentioned in these Farm Science Snapshots are all free. You can get them either by writing to this Station or by writing direct to the United States Department of Agriculture. The bulletin on "Poison Ivy and Poison Sumac and their Eradication" is Farmers' Bulletin No. 1166. Those bulletins on How to Attract Birds are Farmers' Bulletin No. 844 for the Middle Atlantic States; No. 621 for the Northeastern States; No. 912 for the Central States and No. 760 for the Northwest.

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FARM SCIENCE SNAPSHOTS Saturday, June 22, 1929.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: Each week this Station presents the Farm Science Snapshots prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. These Snapshots show the results of studies made by Federal and State scientists. Some of their findings may fit your farm or your particular farm problem.

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The Government fruit experts say orchards and fruit packing houses are seldom properly cleaned up. This year, however, clean up of fallen fruit and destruction of fruit dumps and rejects is especially needed. Such a clean-up is needed on account of the Mediterranean fruit fly and on account of other common pests. Risks of spreading destructive fruit insects can be very much reduced by making sure that all boxes and other containers are thoroughly cleaned. Not only should the boxes themselves be cleaned, but all dirt, dust and trash which may be under the boxes should be carefully swept out and burned. Oil, boiling water, or steam should be applied to all places likely to be infested with the worms of the fruit fly.

All-the-year-around peach ice cream is the problem some of the Federal scientists have been studying. They have tested the different varieties and different ways of preserving peaches so as to use them for peach ice cream. Preserving by freezing they found preserves that fresh peach flavor a little better, but preserving by canning costs less. One thing is certain, they say, a satisfactory product can not be made from inferior peaches. The use of culls or underripe or unsound fruit will certainly make an unsatisfactory product and possibly an unmarketable product. Peaches to be preserved for use in making ice cream must be fully ripened and of good dessert quality. Results of this study have just been published by the Department in Technical Bulletin No. 84-T.

Members of the Committee on New Uses of Cotton report available data on the grade and staple of cotton produced and consumed show that the most relief to the cotton industry through new uses for cotton might come by finding additional uses for the coarse counts and for the extra fine counts of yarn. The cotton 15/16 to 1-1/16 inches long is used most, now.

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The Kentucky Experiment Station experts have analyzed tobacco marketing and say that tobacco growers in the past have based their crop plans too much on the prices received for the previous crops and too little on the probable future demand. They point out that the farmer needs to plan on the basis of the amount which the market may be expected, to need, and with an eye to the trends in demand. With cigarette using increasing and the demand for chewing tobacco decreasing, it became desirable to make changes from the types and grades of tobacco suited for chewing to those in demand for cigarettes.

Kansas Experiment Station economists investigated the marketing of wheat through country elevators. They found most of the elevators have tried to buy wheat on a margin of from 4 to 6 cents a bushel, while to cover all legitimate costs an average buying margin of 7 or 8 cents a bushel is needed under present operating conditions in Kansas. In order to keep local margins low without jeopardizing the finances of the local grain business, they suggest local consolidations and a more extensive use of well-located line elevator systems.

Corn investigators of the Department of Agriculture have been trying to find why some corn is subject to ear smut and some is not. They found that ears tightly inclosed by husks are always smut free. The ears with short, thin husks most often had the disease. Those with long, thick, tight-fitting husks were evidently well protected against smut attack.

Folks in the South are eating less corn bread than they used to eat. Fewer corn cakes and less corn pone and more wheat bread and other foods seems to be the tendency since the World War. But taken the country over, the use of wheat bread has also decreased. Our Nation's diet seems to have shifted somewhat toward more expensive foods.

Some people might call us a Nation of cake-eaters. We use up five and a half million barrels of flour a year for cake making. Our cake bill amounts to about one and one-third billion dollars a year. Over half of all that cake is made by American housewives in American homes. Commercial bakers produce less than a quarter of it. And all the hotels, and restaurants,and public institutions combined produce less than the commercial bakers.

Meat dealers say their customers now demand light cuts, not too wasty in surplus fat. That demand is reflected back to the meat producer. That's one reason beef cattle are being sent to market much earlier than used to be the case. Because of this tendency toward feeding younger cattle, experts at the Nebraska Experiment Station tried to find out what age has to do with costs and the rate of gain. They found that calves fed upon a ration of shelled corn and alfalfa hay made much more economical gains than did 3-year-olds, 2 year-olds, or yearlings fed on the same rations. They found that the younger the cattle, the less difference there has to be between cost and sales price for an even break in feeding.

Meal worms have been known to live for nine months without eating. Sometimes, when they get in meal or flour or grain, it seems as if they had gone longer than that and were trying to make up for lost time. Which shows a lot depends on where a worm is. In a meal or flour bin, a meal worm is a very damaging pest; but meal worms have been raised for hundreds of years and sold as food for birds and small animals. They are very much sought after in acquariums and zoos.

Some farmers might take a hint from that paper company in Alabama. They recently started a pulp mill; and at the same time, they bought 37,000 acres of cut-over lands to raise pulp wood for the mill's future supply. They realize that timber should be handled as a crop.

Farm land in the South that is unfit for cultivation and too bare of seed trees to reforest naturally makes the farmer little return. So long as it stays idle, such land is a liability, slowly eating itself up in taxes. It is not hard to convert that waste land into forest and the U.S. Department of Agriculture has just issued a leaflet pointing out how it can be done. Ask for Leaflet No. 32-L. on "Planting Southern Pine."

There is also a new bulletin, Farmers' Bulletin No. 1567-F on "Propagation of Trees and Shrubs." That deals with fruit trees as well as ornamental trees and shrubs for the adornment of the home place. It gives practical details concerning the care and handling of tree seeds, the culture of seedlings, the successive steps in handling of cuttings, layers, grafts, and buds as well as the methods of propagation most suitable for the several different kinds of woody plants.

Meat [illegible] say their [illegible] Samuel Light [illegible] not [illegible] That [illegible] back [illegible] beef cattle [illegible] case. [illegible] experts [illegible] age had to [illegible] calves fed upon [illegible] and [illegible] more economical [illegible] 2-year-old, [illegible] d on [illegible]

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The Illinois Experiment Station specialists have compared the energy value of alfalfa, and clover, and timothy hay for feeding sheep. They find that the net energy value of timothy hay as a sheep feed is considerably higher than that of alfalfa hay.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: You can get the publications mentioned free of charge by merely writing to this Station ------------ or by writing direct to the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D.C. The bulletin on "Propagation of Trees and Shrubs" is Farmers' Bulletin No. 1567. The leaflet on "Planting Southern Pine" is Leaflet No. 32-L. And the technical bulletin on "preservation of Peaches for Use in the Manufacture of Ice Cream" is Technical Bulletin No. 84.

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FARM SCIENCE SNAPSHOTS Saturday, June 29, 1929.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: Each week this Station_______ presents the Farm Science Snapshots prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture. These Snapshots show some of the recent findings and activities of Federal and State agricultural specialists. Some of those findings may prove of value to you on your farm.

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How some Virginia tobacco growers made more money, although they got less for their tobacco, has been revealed by an investigation made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture working with the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station.

Dark tobacco has gone down in price since the war, due to increased foreign production of dark tobacco and to the demand for the milder tobaccos. Virginia dark-fired tobacco farmers seemed in for some rough sledding.

That being the case, they were advised to cut down the tobacco acreage and go in more for livestock, particularly where conditions were unfavorable for growing high-quality tobacco. Some did. They followed the Outlook reports issued by the Department. In every case they made more according to a study of eight farms in Charlotte County. Tobacco acreage was reduced, while at the same time yields were increased and quality improved. Livestock was added to the farm business. The extra yield and better quality tobacco resulted from the growing of more legumes, from an increased use of lime, and from increased livestock.

Anyway they made more money than before, by getting the best advice and then following it.

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Since the war, farmers in this country have been getting a bigger return in feeding farm animals. In the United States it is estimated that milk production per cow has increased 12 per cent. There has been an increase in pork and lard per hog of about 20 per cent. Taken all in all, it seems that animal products have increased about 16 per cent, whereas the feed eaten by the animals has increased only about 8 per cent.

Specialists at the Montana Experiment Station fed four lots of yearling steers of 10 head each a full feed of alfalfa hay. Then in addition a grain mixture of 3 parts of barley and 1 part of oats was given in varying amounts. One lot of steers got hay alone, another lot got a half feed of the grain mixture in addition, and still another lot got a full feed of grain as well as the full feed of hay; and so on. It was found that full feeding grain to yearling

steers pays best. The grain-fed steers were fat enough for slaughter cattle, but the steers fed hay alone had to be sold as feeders. When the question of the effect of the feeding was put to the cooking test, it was found that roasts from beef fattened with either full feed of barley and alfalfa hay or with half as much barley and alfalfa were fine, rich, juicy, tender and tasty. Roasts from beef fattened on alfalfa alone, however, were coarse, poor, dry, tough and not so good to taste or smell.

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Does it pay to get rid of cattle tuberculosis? How do those who have done it feel about it? Well, here are some of the benefits reported by livestock owners. Among other things, tuberculosis eradication helps the sale of purebred cattle. Cast-off dairy animals bring better prices on account of it. Losses by death due to t-b stop after the herds are put under test. And this area eradication work promotes the sale of surplus cattle.

In the Corn Belt and nearby States, farmers get big premiums on hogs grown in areas which have been certified as practically free from t-b. And, of course, the eradication of t-b from dairy herds helps to establish better markets for milk. Not only that, but the systematic way the work is carried on attracts the interest of bankers and others. It facilitates the interstate movement of officially tested cattle and the testing of cattle promotes the control and eradication of avian tuberculosis among the chickens.

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A study by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics shows that hay-harvesting costs on many farms in the East can be reduced by using up-to-date machinery. Some eastern farmers harvest and store an acre of hay with four hours work, whereas other farmers take more than eight hours to do the same amount. For instance, the use of a side-delivery rake and hay loader saves about an hour and a half of man labor an acre and a half hour an acre of horse work. With wages at 40 cents an hour that would be a saving of 60 cents an acre in man labor alone. Thirty acres of hay at that rate would be harvested and stored at a saving of $18 with a side-delivery rake and hay loader.

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Horticulturists at the Oregon Experiment Station report that spraying with Bordeaux mixture cuts down apple-tree anthracnose, no matter when you spray. A 6-6-50 Bordeaux mixture used as a dormant spray gave fair control. And summer spraying with lead arsenate added to the Bordeaux mixture effectively controlled the disease.

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Lead arsenate is the spray most used against the gypsy moth. But with it is needed something to make it stick on the leaves in spite of rains. Bureau of Entomology experts have experimented with a number of oils, including linseed, fish, and corn oil. They work well as poison stickers or spreaders. Fish oil, however, gives almost as good results as the other oils and gives the results at a much lower cost. Foliage sprayed with a fish oil mixture as early as the first week in June last year was found still well covered with the spray in September. Fish oil is also good as a sticker for Bordeaux mixture.

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This fall, the Bee Culture investigators of that same Bureau are going to investigate the business end of bee keeping in the clover country. The idea is to study bee keeping practices and management so as to work out ways to help beekeepers produce honey at a profit. The success of the survey will depend to a considerable extent on getting the help and cooperation of beekeeping specialists and organizations in the clover region. Any organization able to help is invited to communicate with the Division of Bee Culture Investigations, Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture.

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And, by the way, the Department has a bulletin on the subject of European Foulbrood, which is important to all beekeepers. Ask for Farmers' Bulletin No. 975-F.

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The Department has also appointed a select committee of scientists to look into the possibilities of new uses for sugarcane bagasse. It would seem that the fibrous remains of the sugarcane after the juice has been pressed out might be converted into first-rate paving material for roads, and walks, and floors or buildings, and the like.

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Experiments with asparagus at the South Carolina Experiment Station have shown that nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash are all needed to get the biggest yields of asparagus. Heavy fertilization after cutting gave consistently better results than fertilizers put on before cutting. The experiments also showed that it is better to delay the first cutting of asparagus until the second year after planting; and bigger yields result with close planting 3 by 2 feet, than with wide spacing.

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At the Connecticut Experiment Station it was found that the prime need of the average lawn turf is for a top-dressing with readily available nitrogen such as ammonium sulphate. Native grown seed of creeping bent, velvet bent, and Rhode Island bent seemed to be well adapted to the Connecticut Station conditions where good drainage was provided.

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Heavy infestation of boll weevils is reported from many sections of the Cotton Belt. How much damage the boll weevils do, however, will depend, of course, somewhat on weather conditions during the summer, and also on the extent dusting and other control measures are carried out. Anyway, cotton farmers should be especially alert this season in their plans for fighting the weevil.

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ANNOUNCEMENT: The number of that Farmers' Bulletin on "European Foulbrood" is Farmers' Bulletin No. 975. Also the address to which beekeeping organizations interested in helping in that beekeeping cost study should communicate is Bee Culture Investigations, Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture. The bulletin can be obtained either by writing this Station_________ or by writing direct to the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C.

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